Unutilised funds under MPLADS

1395. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the causes for the unutilised funds under MPLADS (Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme);

(b) whether it is a fact that the reasons for unutilised funds under MPLADS is frequent transfers of Collectors;

(c) whether Government would take efforts not to transfer Collectors frequently inspite of pulls and pressures in those States where Collectors are transferred frequently;

(d) whether Government awaits the report of the Programme Evaluation Organization of the Planning Commission; if so, by when is this report expected; and

(e) whether Government have fixed any time-frame in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Some of the reasons for less utilisation of MPLADS funds are the civil nature of works proposed by the MPs, delay in transfer of land, limited working season in some States, the operation of Model Code of Conduct during Elections etc.

(b) and (c) Frequent transfer of Collectors is likely to be one of the reasons. Collectors and under the administrative control of the State Government. Action in this regard, therefore, has to be taken by them.

(d) and (e) The report of the Programme Evaluation Organization of the Planning Commission is expected by the end of December 2000.